

28 April 2008

Dear Men and Women of the United States Congress and the F.C.C.,

I am writing to let you know of the great impact that Air1 and other Christian radio stations have been for me and my family. My father was a cop for 23 years in southern California and died suddenly at the age of 45 without life insurance. My mother, sister, brother and I were left with nothing live off of and only the hope of God to get us through the most difficult time in our life. Not only had I lost my father, but I had lost my mother as well when her mental state was crippled from the shock of losing her husband.

My heart was in turmoil and I felt completely alone because so many of my “friends” were too busy with their own lives to help me out emotionally through this trial. I turned to God because there was no one else and somehow He kept me going with endless strength. The reason that God was able to make such a huge difference for me at such a young point in my life was because of the national Christian radio station, Air1. Any time I ever felt like giving up or that there was no hope for my family to keep going, I would just listen to that beautiful station in order to be filled with hope again. The music on that station and on other Christian stations is a powerful inspiration to all people who choose to listen. The songs are written from the heart of God. They really do have the ability to touch and heal the lives of hurting people all around the world; just as they did for me. If it wasn't for Air1's ability to bring me into the presence of God, I would probably be close to death from drugs rather than getting ready to graduate from Arizona State University in the fall of this year to become an elementary school teacher. There is just something amazing about how a certain song can come on at the exact moment you need to hear the words that are being sung. You just know that you are not alone and that God is listening; waiting and willing to help you in any way possible.

I feel that by requiring community advisory boards to oversee all the broadcasters in a certain area would be detrimental to all Christian radio stations. It's unfortunate that a few people, who do not appreciate our right of free speech, would want to control what Christian radio stations can and cannot say. These appointed individuals may not be friendly to the Christian mission of the stations, and therefore they may want to stop the positive influence of these stations.

Christian radio stations are completely financially supported by their listeners who want to hear what these stations are saying and playing. These stations are listener supported for a reason; because we as listeners want the ability to listen to these positive stations if we so choose. By requiring additional staffing for these radio stations, it would be a lot more difficult for them to be listener supported. The higher cost would probably cause a large number of individual stations all around the United States to close down because of insufficient funding in that particular area.

*Please* leave Christian radio stations the way that they are. They really can make a positive difference in lives nationwide and that is why they have been successfully listener supported for such a long time. Thank you for listening and I hope your heart leads you to the right decision.

Sincerely,

Misty M. Caudle

Rodel Exemplary Student Teacher